

**IN THE DRAWINGS:**

Replacement Figs. 1-6 are attached hereto and have labels added as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). In particular, labels were added to the boxes referenced with numbers as follows:

<u>Reference No.</u>	<u>Label Added</u>
10	Charger
12	connection
16	adapter
22	microprocessor
24	multi-voltage converter
14a, 14b	connection points
28	lead
32	connection
51	software application
52	receiving equipment
56	link
58	switch
62	connection pins
63	connection pins
65	bridge

**REMARKS**

The Office Action dated March 21, 2006, has been received and carefully reviewed. The preceding amendments and the following remarks form a full and complete response thereto. Claims 26-38 are amended as to matters of form only. No new matter has been added. Claims 26-38 are pending in this application and are submitted for reconsideration.

Objections were made to the drawings on the grounds that conventional boxes lacked labels as required. Accordingly, replacement Figs. 1-6 are submitted herewith having labels added as required. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objections to the drawings be withdrawn.

Objections were made to the specification on the grounds that paragraph 35 of the specification included a typographical error. Applicants traverse the objection. The paragraph referenced by the Examiner does not have the error stated in the Office Action. Namely, the word "battery" is already spelled out. Attached is a true and correct copy of page 4 of the present specification as filed. Clearly, the typographical error stated in the Office Action does not exist in the copy filed by the Applicants. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

Objections were made to claims 27-38 for formal reasons. In particular, it was asserted in the Office Action that the preamble should recite "recharging device" instead of only device. Appropriate amendments have been made. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objections to the claims be withdrawn.

Claim 26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,459,175 to Potega. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and submit that claim 26 recites subject matter not disclosed by Potega.

Claim 26 defines a portable charging device. Potega fails to disclose a portable charging device.

Potega discloses a universal power supply capable of delivering varied power requirements (see col. 1, lines 10-11 of Potega). Potega describes an intelligent power supply for use on aircraft, trains, etc. or any passenger-carrying equipment (see col. 11, lines 54-56 of Potega). Further, the power supply is stored out of sight (see col. 12, line 1 of Potega). Thus, Potega clearly discloses a power supply device that is not portable; to the contrary, the power supply device is bulky and is foreseen to be built within or integrated into the passenger-carrying equipment (e.g., hard-wired into an airplane).

The Office Action cites to the abstract and figures 1-14 of Potega to attempt to demonstrate that Potega discloses a portable charger. However, the figures only show electronic circuits and there is not a single word in the Abstract concerning a portable charger.

Perhaps, the Examiner may rely on column 72, lines 14-33 of Potega. However, this section of Potega describes the charging device to be dispatched between a power module in place at a passenger seat on an airplane and the "intelligence" of the controllable power module that is relocated to the aircraft's food service tray. According to this paragraph, only a part of the device is somehow *portable*, but clearly not the whole charging device. Furthermore, Fig. 13 of Potega shows *visible devices and*

*embedded devices*. Once again, the device is at best *partially* portable and partially stationary, and must be used within a particular non-portable environment where the rest of the device is located. Thus, the device described in this paragraph would not have been understood by the person skilled in the art as a *portable charger*.

Further, the Office Action cites to col. 1, lines 10-13 of Potega that “a charger adapting a receiving item of portable equipment to a source item of portable equipment.” The Applicants respectfully disagree with this assertion. Col. 1, lines 10-13 of Potega points out only that the *universal power supply...simultaneously and independently adjust[s] the voltage...to each device*. Potega explicitly indicates that the devices to be supplied with voltage are independent from the others. Thus, one skilled in the art would understand that the devices cannot and do not interact. Therefore, Potega further fails to disclose a charger adapting a receiving item of portable equipment to a source item of portable equipment as claimed in the present application.

Thus, in view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that Potega fails to disclose each and every element of claim 26. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection to claim 26 be withdrawn and claim 26 be allowed.

Claims 26-38 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent application 2002/0147036 to Taguchi et al. (“Taguchi”) in view of Potega. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and submit that claims 26-38 recite subject matter not disclosed or suggested by the combination of cited prior art.

It was asserted in the Office Action that Taguchi discloses a charger 3 comprising a connection 51 to a source of electrical 40, a plurality of connection points 2 for items of portable rechargeable. It was also asserted that Taguchi discloses an adapter 53. However, reference numerals 40, 51 and 53 are features of the device shown in Fig. 6 that is the described state of the art, whereas reference 2 is mentioned in Taguchi with respect to the device shown in Figs. 1-5. None of the features 40, 51, 53 are shown in Figs. 1-5 at all. Further, Fig. 6 fails to disclose a plurality of connection points and instead, discloses a single power cable 52b with a single connector plug 54.

Taguchi presents his invention as being an improvement over the prior art that solves disadvantages in the prior art. Thus, one having ordinary skill in the art would not look to combine the invention of Taguchi (i.e., the device of Figs. 1-5) with the prior art device (i.e., the device of Fig. 6) described therein. In fact, one having ordinary skill in the art would understand that Taguchi teaches away from the combination asserted in the Office Action.

Applicants agree with the Examiner that Taguchi does not disclose any adapter comprising a microprocessor and a multi-voltage converter supplying voltages and currents adapted to said items of equipments to be recharged. (see page 4 of the Office Action). However, Applicants disagree that it would have been obvious to a skilled person to modify Taguchi's apparatus with an adapter as disclosed in Potega. Indeed, Potega teaches away from the proposed combination.

As discussed above, Potega fails to disclose a portable charger. To the contrary, Potega teaches a charger built in a passenger-carrying equipment such as an aircraft.

Thus, one skilled in the art would not have considered the bulky, stationary adapter of Potega to modify the portable personal computer of Taguchi, which must be compact and light.

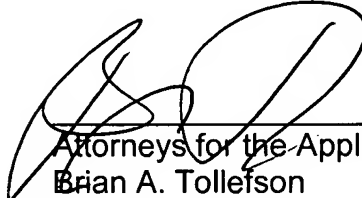
The reasoning set forth in the Office Action utilizes impermissible hindsight. Further, even if the one skilled in the art had considered Potega, the combination of the adapter of Potega with the apparatus of Taguchi would fail to result in the claimed device for at least two reasons: First, the combination of the adapter of Potega with the apparatus of Taguchi will lead to a device that is not portable, since the various components of Potega are bulky. Second, as discussed above with respect to Potega and as agreed by the Examiner with respect to Taguchi, there is no suggestion in either reference concerning the features the charger adapting a receiving item of portable equipment to a source item of portable equipment. Therefore, the combination of cited prior art fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of claims 26-38. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection of claims 26-38 be withdrawn and that claims 26-38 be allowed.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

Respectfully submitted,

7-20-06  
Date

  
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be carried around with the person. The size of the charger depends on the number of connection points. The advantage is that the user only needs to take charger 10 with him when travelling so as to be able to charge all items of portable rechargeable equipment.

5 Connection 12 allows the charger to be powered for recharging the items of equipment 20a, 20b, and so on. Connection 12 allows charger 10 to be connected to the utility supply for example 230 volt supply or to a 12 volt vehicle cigarette lighter. As charger 10 is portable, the user can recharge his portable equipment in his car while travelling. A further advantage of having just one charger 10 is that in only  
10 occupies one socket outlet for receiving power instead of each item of equipment requiring a separate socket outlet, or the user employing a multiple adapter. Further, as socket outlets differ from one country to the other, the user would need a special adapter when travelling abroad. Thus, another advantage of having one single charger 10 is that when abroad, the user does not require an adapter to recharge each  
15 one of his items of portable equipment.

The points of connection 14a, 14b, and so on allow a plurality of items of portable equipment to be connected and recharged, independently of their shape and without separating the battery from the portable equipment. The advantage is that the items of equipment do not require to be plugged into charger 10, thereby reducing  
20 the latter's size. The connection points 14a, 14b and so on can be of different types. For example, a connection point of the RJ 45 type, a so-called universal connection point is becoming more and more common on communications equipment. RJ 45 connection points make it possible to provide detection of the program for charging equipment 20a, 20b etc thanks to the use of locating key means ensuring correct  
25 insertion. The items of portable equipment can use connection plugs different from the RJ 45 connection point. Different connection plugs for the same RJ 45 connection point are available for the portable equipment. For example, a laptop computer will use plugs that are different from a cellphone which will allow charger 10 to detect what type of equipment is connected. The RJ 45 type connection points  
30 can include built-in structural key means ensuring correct connection and recognition of the type of charge.

According to one embodiments, the connection points 14a, 14b etc. can be magnets or woven ribbon. The nature of the connection points will be discussed in more detail below.

35 Adapter 16 allows charger 10 to be compatible with items of rechargeable equipment adapted for differing charging programs. For example, adapter 16 with charger 10 allows a laptop computer having 3A charge current and a charging voltage of 19V to be charged just like a cellphone accepting a 700 mA charge current